

T-579
Leonard House
St. Michaels
private

c. 1860

The Leonard house, historically known as the Charles W. Willey house, is a modest two-story, two-part frame house erected during the propersous years before the Civil War. The stepped appearance to the exterior is common to the region and follows in the same tradition as the larger "telescope" style dwellings. Due to the constricting width of the town lot the former semi-detached kitchen was built to the rear. Exterior finishes remain largely unaltered with plain weatherboards, six-over-six sash windows, and four-panel doors.

Land records for the Leonard house suggest the structure was assembled around 1860 for Charles W. Willey after he purchased the lot from James and Mary Sewall for \$105. During their ownership of the property, the Willeys sold a section of their lot to Dr. John Miller for access through to his subdivided acreaage south of Chestnut Street. The two-story frame house, now sited on the corner of East Chestnut Street and "New Lane" remained in Willey family hands until the turn of the century. The Leonard name has been associated with the house since 1959.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-579

Magi No. 2105795504

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Charles W. Willey House

and/or common Leonard House

2. Location

street & number 200 East Chestnut Street ☐ not for publicationcity, town St. Michaels ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. William T. Leonard

street & number 200 East Chestnut St. telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot Clerk of Court liber 68

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 567

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Leonard house (historically known as the Charles W. Willey house) stands at 200 East Chestnut Street in the southern residential district of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story frame house faces north with the gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1860, the two-story, two-bay frame house is supported by a minimal brick foundation and sheathed with plain weatherboards. The medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending to the east is a shorter two-story, two-bay wing, and attached to the back of the house is a single-story kitchen wing erected in 1951 to replace a semi-detached kitchen.

The north (main) elevation is a asymmetrical facade of four bays, two bays defining each one-room plan section. The main block has a four-panel door in the left (east) bay and an adjacent six-over-six sash window. The second floor is lighted by two six-over-six sash windows, and the cornice is boxed. Rising from the east gable of the main house is a stuccoed brick chimney. The west gable end is a plain weatherboard wall with a flush gable end.

Covering the east gable is the shorter two-story section with a partially glazed door filling the east bay of the main facade. A simple gable roof shelters the front entrance, and a six-over-six sash window fills the adjacent bay. The kn wall of the second floor is pierced by small six-pane windows, and the eave is simply finished. The east end is pierced by six-over-six sash windows, and the gable end is flush.

The interior has been moderately remodeled through the years. The original enclosed stair rises between the two rooms against the centrally located partition. The winder stair rises behind a beaded board and batten door. The stair splits at the top with individual steps to each second floor room. Fixed at the head of the stair is a short balustrade with a board newel post, slender, square balusters, and a oval-profile handrail. Four-panel doors have been reused on a large closet. A beaded board and batten door opens into the small room above the east section.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-579

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Leonard house is a modest two-story, two-room plan frame house erected during the third quarter of the nineteenth century on East Chestnut Street. The stepped appearance to the exterior is common to the region and follows in the same tradition of "telescope" style dwellings. Due to the constricting width of the town lot the former semi-detached kitchen was built to the rear of the house. Exterior finishes remain largely unaltered with plain weatherboards, six-over-six sash windows, and four-panel doors. The interior has been moderately remodeled, but several features remain undisturbed including the mid nineteenth-century stair. The Leonard house contributes to the continuous row of nineteenth-century dwellings that distinguish East Chestnut Street.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Land records for the Leonard house suggest the two-story, two-part frame house was erected around 1860 after Charles W. Willey purchased this Chestnut Street lot from James and Mary Sewall for \$105.(68/567) During their ownership of the property, the Willeys sold a section of their lot to Dr. John Miller for access through to his subdivided acreage south of Chestnut Street. The two-story frame house, now sited on the corner of East Chestnut Street and "New Lane" remained in Willey family hands until the turn of the century when the property was sold by the Willey estate to Jaspar Y. Tarr.(133/290)

Survey No. T-579

BERNICE LEONARD HOUSE

T-579

YEAR: 1959 VOL: 359 PAGE: 399

FROM: Mary A. Tarr, widow PRICE:

TO: William Leonard and R. Bernice Leonard

NOTES Begins at a post on NW corner of Chestnut Street and an alley to Miller's Addition; run with the alley S 124' to Boundary Alley; E with Boundary Alley 41 feet to William J. Wrightson; 124 feet N with Wrightson to Chestnut Street; W 41 feet on Chestnut Street to the beginning.

Conveyed to J. Yewell Tarr and Mary A. Tarr by Robert Y Tarr 1957, 343/482.

YEAR: 1957 VOL: 343 PAGE: 482

FROM: Robert Y. Tarr, unmarried PRICE:

TO: J. Yewell Tarr and Mary A. Tarr

NOTES Same description. Part of title clearance.

1957, 343/480 J. Yewell Tarr and Mary A. Tarr to Robert Y. Tarr is title clearance.

Conveyed to J. Yewell Tarr and Amelia B. Tarr (dcd. 1957) by Jaspar Y. Tarr and Martha E. Tarr 1930, 223/390.

YEAR: 1930 VOL: 223 PAGE: 390

FROM: Jaspar Y. Tarr and Martha E. Tarr PRICE:

TO: Amelia B. Tarr and J. Yewell Tarr

NOTES Same description.

Conveyed to Jaspar Y. Tarr by John W. Dean, exectr. of Charles W. Willey, Sr. 1900, 133/290.

YEAR: 1900 VOL: 133 PAGE: 290

FROM: John W. Dean, extr. of Charles W. Willey, Sr. PRICE: \$375

TO: Jaspar Y. Tarr

NOTES Same description.

Sold by direction of the will of Charles W. Willey, Sr. 15/232, probated 1900.

YEAR: 1898 VOL: 15 PAGE: 232 (will)

FROM: Charles W. Willey, Sr. PRICE:

TO:

NOTES After devising his home farm, etc. he directed that three pieces of real estate were to be sold. One of these was: "a house and lot on the south side of Chestnut Street occupied by Jaspar Y. Tarr".

YEAR: 1888 VOL: 108 PAGE: 39

FROM: Charles W. and Susan Willey PRICE: \$110

TO: John Miller

NOTES Begins at the NE corner of Wm. F. Spurry; runs S with Spurry 120 feet to Boundary Alley; then E with Boundary Alley 20 feet; then N 120 feet to Chestnut Street; then W with Chestnut Street 20 feet to the beginning.

John Miller bought this strip of land apparently for an access road from Chestnut Street to the center of his developement "Miller's Addition". It is now "New Lane".

YEAR: 1888 VOL: 108 PAGE: 39

FROM: Charles W. and Susan Willey PRICE: \$110

TO: John Miller

NOTES Begins at the NE corner of Wm. F. Spurry; runs S with Spurry 120 feet to Boundary Alley; then E with Boundary Alley 20 feet; then N 120 feet to Chestnut Street; then W with Chestnut Street 20 feet to the beginning. John Miller bought this strip of land apparently for an access road from Chestnut Street to the center of his development "Miller's Addition". It is now "New Lane".

YEAR: 1860 VOL: 68 PAGE: 567

FROM: James and Mary Sewell PRICE: \$105

TO: Charles W. Willey

NOTES Begins at lot of Richard Tarr on Chestnut Street; run E 60 feet on Chestnut to Mary Sewell; with Sewell 120 feet to Dr. John Miller; with Miller SW 60 feet to Richard Tarr; with Tarr 120 feet to the beginning.

YEAR: 1859 VOL: 68 PAGE: 381

FROM: Joseph Sewell PRICE: \$100

TO: James T Sewell

NOTES Begins at a lot of Richard Tarr; run NE with Chestnut Street 60 feet to a lot of Joseph Sewell; 120 feet with Sewell to Dr. John Miller; with Miller 60 feet to Richard Tarr; with Tarr N 120 feet to the beginning.

A deed to Joseph Sewell for the lot has not been found. Title probably passed by inheritance. By a decision of the Chancery Court in 1812 (deed 1813, 36/288) John Dorgan obtained title to all of John Thompson's land south of Chestnut Street. John Dorgan (and heirs) held the property until its sale to Harrington & Benson in 1848 (61/151). During this time several lots were sold on the south side of Chestnut Street.

Mary Dorgan daughter of John Dorgan, married Mark Sewell. She was the grandmother of the Sewells concerned with the lots on Chestnut Street. Deed 1860, 68/567 refers to "Mary Sewell" on the adjacent lot (East side).

The Easton Ledger for 1888 contains a notice of an "ejectment suit" brought by Dorgan heirs against the holders of six lots on Chestnut Street, including this one. The records of this case have not been found and the outcome of the suit can only be inferred by the fact that there is no interruption in the chains-of-title for the lots and it is not mentioned further.

ST MICHAELS

ST MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

ST MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth Brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, Cigars, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds. Also Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil, Candles, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions carefully Compounded.

HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.

V. W. DEAN, Collector of Claims, Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer.

ES DYOTT, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

RED H. MABLETON, Carpenter and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

ES B. MABLETON, Real Estate Agent and Collector of Claims.

SPARKS, Justice of the Peace and Collector.

SMITHMAN, Boot and Shoemaker. First class work done on short notice. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

V. S. HAMBLETON, Proprietor of "Hambleton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheel-righting, and all work appertaining thereto. Indicate Machinery carefully repaired. Farming implements on hand, and made to order at short notice. Carriage Repairing, Trimming and Painting Specially.

WILLIAM CAULK, Physician and Surgeon, Office and Residence near St. Michael's.

LIAM S. HARRISON, Blacksmith and Vagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.

C. NEAVITT & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in Broad Creek Neck.

N. T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Williams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the season. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges moderate.

NIEL J. KILMAN, Carriage Maker and Dealer in all kinds of Wagons.

GEORGE W. COLLINS, Tinner. Worker in Tin, Sheet Iron, &c. Also Dealer in Stoves and Tin, and Sheet Iron ware of every description.

E. BLADES, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.

SEPH HERGERSEHIMER, Ship Builder. Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.

IVER FAIRBANK, Boot and Shoemaker. Is skillful in his profession. Those wanting first class work done will do well to patronize him.

HARRISON & RICHARDSON, Carriage Makers. All work warranted. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

J. HOLLAND, Butcher and Dealer in Fresh Meats of all kinds. Shop on Talbot Street.

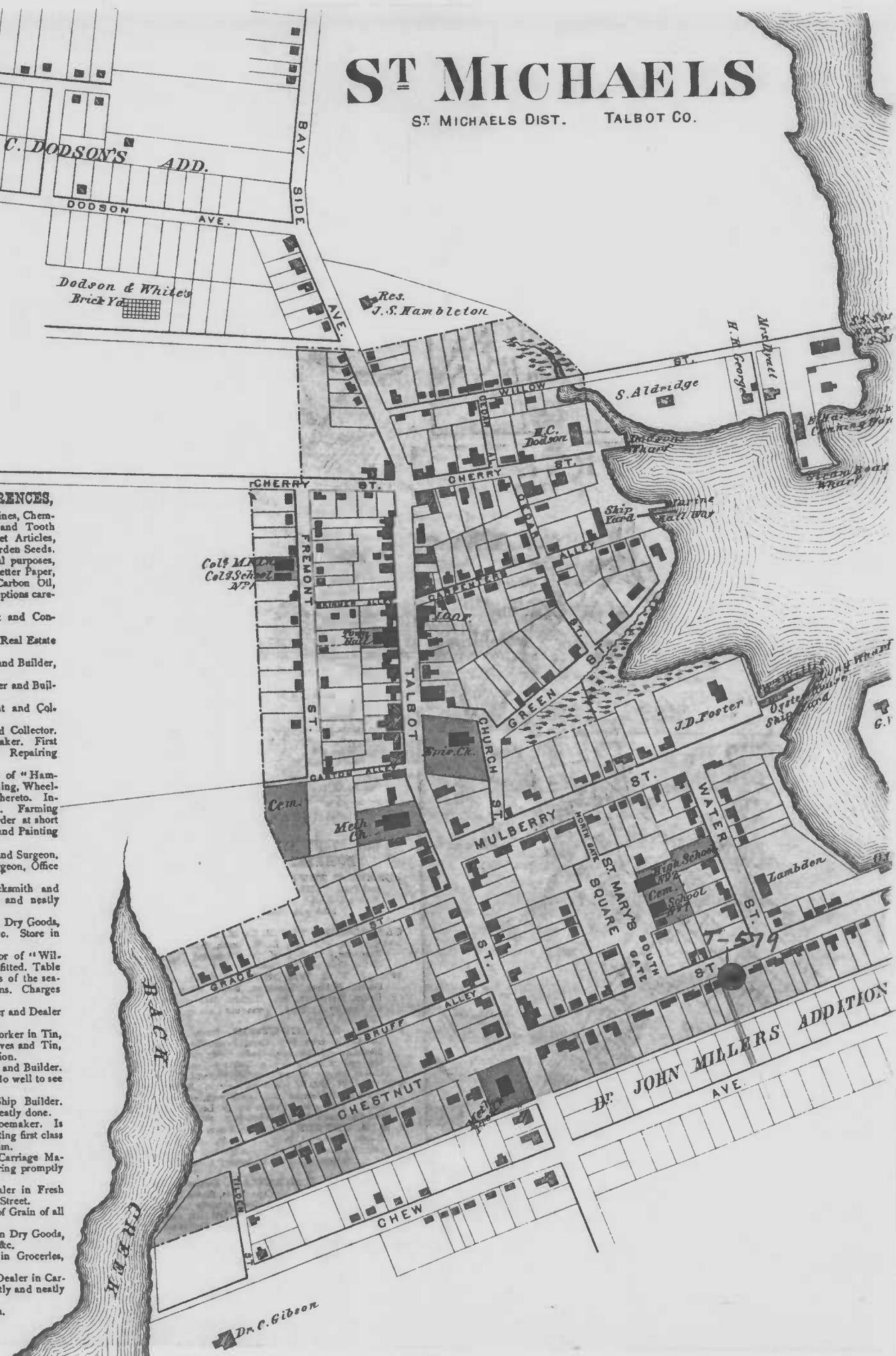
PT. C. R. LEONARD, Freighter of Grain of all kinds to any point.

OMAS BLADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

EMILIA HARRISON, Dealer in Groceries, Confectioneries &c.

S. KILMON, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

A. DODSON Physician and Surgeon.







CHARLES W. WILLEY HOUSE

T-579

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Md.

North elevation

10/86, Paul Touart, photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust